

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 01287 140512Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00
CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
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R 131643Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5837
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1287

USCINCEUR AND USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CY
SUBJECT: COMMONWEALTH COMMITTEE VISITS CYPRUS MAY 3-11
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PAGE 02 NICOSI 01287 140512Z

1. COMMONWEALTH COMMITTEE OF CYPRUS VISITED THE ISLAND
MAY 3-11. COMMITTEE WAS SET UP BY COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF
GOVERNMENT IN MAY 1975 "TO REVIEW DEVELOPMENTS, MAKE RECOM-
MENDATIONS AND ASSIST IN THE EARLY IMPLEMENTATION OF U.N.
RESOLUTIONS." KENYAN HIGH COMMISSIONER IN LONDON, NG'ETHE
NJOROGE WAS NOMINAL HEAD OF THE COMMITTEE. COMMONWEALTH DEPUTY

SECRETARY GENERAL M.A. HUSAIN, HOWEVER, MANAGED THE ACTIVITIES OF THE GROUP AND WAS THE DE FACTO LEADER. THE COMMITTEE ALSO INCLUDED MEMBERS OF THE MALTESE, ZAMBIAN, NIGERIAN, GUYANA, INDIAN, AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONS IN LONDON AND AN FCO OFFICER.

2. DURING ITS 8 DAYS HERE THE COMMITTEE MET WITH ARCH-BISHOP MAKARIOS, TURK CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH, UN SYG SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE DE CUELLAR AND LEADING PERSONALITIES AND NEGOTIATORS OF BOTH COMMUNITIES. THEY VISITED BOTH AREAS OF THE ISLAND. IN A DEPARTURE STATEMENT NJORGE EMPHASIZED THAT THE COMMITTEE "DID NOT COME TO CYPRUS TO PLAY THE ROLE OF REFEREE OR MEDIATOR BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES BUT TO HELP CREATE A CLIMATE THAT COULD FACILITATE THE TALKS FOR A FAIR AND LASTING SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM." HE SAID THAT UPON ITS RETURN TO LONDON THE COMMITTEE "WILL PREPARE A REPORT ON ITS OBSERVATIONS, IMPRESSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AND WILL SUBMIT THIS REPORT TO THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES TO MEET IN LONDON 8 JUNE."

3. IT WAS AN OPEN SECRET HERE THAT THE COMMITTEE DISAGREED WITH GOC OVER HOW MUCH TIME COMMITTEE SHOULD SPEND WITH TURK CYPRIOTS. HUSAIN WANTED TO DIVIDE TIME ROUGHLY EQUALLY BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS SHARED THIS DESIRE. ALL WERE IRRITATED BY GOC FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES' ATTEMPT TO CONTROL WHAT THEY SHOULD DO OR NOT DO AND WERE ANGERED TO LEARN THAT CHRISTOPHIDES SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY GENERAL RAMPHAL TO COMPLAIN ABOUT COMMITTEE'S CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 NICOSI 01287 140512Z

ACTIVITIES IN THE NORTH. DENKTASH WAS AT HIS BEST WITH COMMITTEE; HIS MODERATION ON SCHEDULING AND OTHER PROTOCOL ISSUES MADE A GOOD IMPRESSION.

4. WE HAD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH COMMITTEE MEMBERS, PARTICULARLY WITH HUSAIN. THROUGH ITS CONVERSATIONS, COMMITTEE CAME TO UNDERSTAND TURKISH CYPRIOT CONCERN FOR PHYSICAL AND ECONOMIC SECURITY IN VIEW OF LONG PAST HISTORY OF PERSECUTION. COMMITTEE TENTATIVELY CONCLUDED THAT MANY CURRENT ACTIONS OF GOC ARE MISGUIDED IN THAT THEY GIVE TURKISH CYPRIOTS NO ALTERNATIVE TO EVER GREATER SUBORDINATION TO TURKEY. COMMITTEE MEMBERS WITH WHOM WE DISCUSSED THIS FELT THAT IN CONSTITUTIONAL TERMS THE CYPRUS SITUATION IS SUI GENERIS; A NEW CONSTITUTION MUST TAKE TURKISH CYPRIOT CONCERNS INTO ACCOUNT; OTHER CONSTITUTIONAL MODELS OF A FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL NOT WORK HERE.

5. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY LONDON SENDING US TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY OF REPORT WHEN AVAILABLE, WITH TEXT BY POUCH.
CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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